

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) A threaded connection comprising:
 - A. a spacer having a threaded end and a top end,
 - B. (i) a first set of threads having a first timing and provided on a first component connection end of a first component and
(ii) a second set of threads having a second timing and provided on a second component connection end of a second component,
(iii) such that when said second component connection end is attached to said threaded end of said spacer and said first component connection end abuts said top end of said spacer when said first and second components are disposed in a pre-defined axial alignment, said first set of threads and said second set of threads are synchronous, and none of the first set of threads overlap with any of the second set of threads; and
 - C. a connection collar adapted to be (i) threaded onto said first component connection end, and (ii) threaded onto said second component connection end after said first component connection end abuts said top end of said spacer and said threaded end of said spacer is attached to said second component connection end and said first and second components are disposed and maintained in pre-defined axial alignment while said connection collar is threaded onto said second component connection end.
9. – 25. (Canceled)
26. (Allowed) The threaded connection of claim 8 wherein said first set of threads is externally disposed on said first component connection end and said second set of threads is externally disposed on said second component connection end.
27. (Currently Amended) The threaded connection of claim 8 wherein said first component has one or more openings therein that align with one or more openings in said second

component when said first and second components are disposed in [[a]] said pre-defined axial alignment.

28. (Currently Amended) The threaded connection of ~~claim 8~~ claim 27 wherein ~~an item is disposed through at least one of said one or more~~ openings in said first component and ~~through a corresponding aligned~~ said one or more ~~opening~~ openings in said second component both support an engineering endeavor.